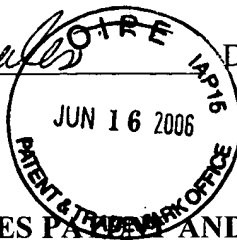


I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY: *Gladys E. Morales* Date: *June 14, 2006*  
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Nobutoshi Chigira :  
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:  
Conf. No.: 2752 : Group Art Unit: 2852  
:  
Appln. No.: 10/786,522 : Examiner: Robert B. Beatty  
:  
Filing Date: February 25, 2004 : Attorney Docket No.: 9448-151US  
:  
(G0316US)  
Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

**AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2005 and is being filed within the third month after the shortened statutory period set for a response to the Office Action. A Petition for a three-month extension of time accompanies this paper. If any additional fee is due, charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1017 (Billing No. 209448.0151).

Please amend the patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this Amendment.

**Remarks and Conclusion** begin on page 13 of this Amendment.